

ABSTRACT

A method of creating a borehole in an earth formation is provided. The method involves the steps of drilling a section of the borehole and lowering an expandable tubular element into the borehole whereby a lower portion of the tubular element extends into the drilled borehole section, radially expanding the lower portion of the tubular element so as to form a casing in the drilled borehole section, and separating an upper portion of the tubular element from the lower portion so as to allow the separated upper portion to be moved relative to the lower portion.